

Message Text

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43

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SUBJECT: REFUTATION OF CHARGE THAT GVN IS NOT COMPLYING WITH
PARIS AGREEMENT

REF: HELSINKI 0088

DEPARTMENT PASS IMMEDIATE IBS/NCS

1. SECOND SENTENCE OF LAST GRAF OF WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL
CITED REFTTEL STATES THAT PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY SHOULD REPORT
TO THE CONGRESS "WHAT THE U.S. IS DOING TO INDUCE PRESIDENT THIEU
TO FULFILL THAT PART OF THE PARIS PEACE ACCORDS WHICH CALLS ON
HIM TO JOIN THE COMMUNIST PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT
IN A NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RECONCILIATION THAT WOULD ORGANIZE
ELECTIONS FOR A NEW SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT."

2. THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT SQUARE WITH THE PLAIN FACTS. THE
NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GVN AND THE SO-CALLED "PRG" WHICH
BEGAN IN MARCH 1973 TO BRING ABOUT A GENERAL ELECTION IN SOUTH
VIETNAM AS CALLED FOR IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT WERE BROKEN OFF BY
THE "PRG" IN MAY 1974. DURING THESE NEGOTIATIONS THE GVN HAD
PRESSED HARD TO SET A DATE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTIONS BUT THE
"PRG" REFUSED TO AGREE TO ANY DATE.

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3. THE GVN FOREIGN MINISTER ON NOVEMBER 7 AND PRESIDENT THIEU

ON NOVEMBER 21 PUBLICLY CALLED ON THE COMMUNISTS TO RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. THE "PRG" AND THE NORTH VIETNAMESE REJECTED THESE APPEALS BOTH TIMES. EVEN IN ITS JANUARY 8 DECLARATION FOLLOWING THE COMMUNIST CAPTURE OF PHUOC LONG THE GVN MADE PLAIN THAT IT "HAS ALWAYS KEPT THE DOORS OPEN TO THE NEGOTIATIONS AT LA CELLE ST. CLOUD AND TAN SON NHAT (SAIGON)."

4. IN HIS SPEECH ON NOVEMBER 21 PRESIDENT THIEU MADE SPECIFIC MENTION OF HIS DESIRE TO GET ON WITH FORMING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD. HE SAID ".... THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM IS WILLING TO DISCUSS AND IMPLEMENT WITHOUT DELAY THE POLITICAL SOLUTION ANTICIPATED IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT WHICH INCLUDES THE SETTING UP OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD IN ORDER TO PROGRESS TOWARDS GENUINELY FREE AND DEMOCRATIC GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION."

5. NOT ONLY HAVE THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND THEIR SOUTHERN BRANCH THE "PRG" REJECTED THESE CALLS TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS, THEY HAVE DECLARED THAT HENCEFORTH THEY WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE WITH PRESIDENT THIEU'S GOVERNMENT, THE CONSTITUTIONALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM AND THE GOVERNMENT WHICH SIGNED THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

6. FROM THE FOREGOING THREE CONCLUSIONS EMERGE: (1) THE COMMUNISTS DO NOT WANT TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ON GENERAL ELECTIONS (WHICH THEY COULD NOT POSSIBLY WIN), (2) THEY BROKE OFF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS AND SAIGON, DESPITE THE DESIRE OF THE GVN TO CONTINUE THEM, AND SUBSEQUENTLY DELIBERATELY ESCALATED THEIR OFFENSIVE IN SOUTH VIETNAM IN OPEN VC THE PARIS AGREEMENT; AND (3) THE GVN HAS IN FACT COMPLIED WITH THE POLITICAL CLAUSES OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, SEEKING TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE COMMUNISTS ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD AND THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL ELECTION.

7. ALSO SUGGEST HELSINKI DRAW ON SAIGON 15265 SUBJECT:
WHO IS VIOLATING THE PARIS AGREEMENT BEING REPEATED SEPARATELY.
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